

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sensor assembly for an automatic laundry dryer having a rotatable drum, the sensor assembly comprising:

a bulkhead having an air outlet opening that exhausts humidified air from the drum;

an electrically non-conductive sensor body secured directly to the bulkhead, the sensor body being positioned so as to cover a portion of the air outlet opening; [[and]]

at least one sensing element disposed on a first surface of the sensor body, the at least one sensing element being exposed to the inside of the drum such that wet clothes contact the at least one sensing element during dryer operation; and

an air outlet grill secured to the bulkhead, wherein the air outlet grill receives the sensor body.

2. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 1 further comprising:

a first mounting bracket extending from the bulkhead where the a first mounting bracket includes an aperture disposed therein, wherein the sensor body includes an extension member extending from a second surface of the sensor body and wherein the extension member inserts into the aperture such that the extension member is in slip fit engagement with the first mounting bracket.

3. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 2 further comprising:
a second mounting bracket extending from the bulkhead, wherein a first end of the sensor body includes a screw hole adapted to receive a screw for securing the first end to the second mounting bracket.

4. (Original) The sensor assembly of claim 2, wherein the extension member of the sensor body includes a detent which engages with the first mounting bracket to prevent the extension member from being disengaged from the first mounting bracket.

5. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 1, wherein the sensor body further comprises:

a first screw hole disposed in a first end of the sensor body adapted to receive a first screw for securing the first end directly to the bulkhead; and

a second screw hole disposed in a second end of the sensor body adapted to receive a second screw for securing the second end to a mounting bracket which extends from the bulkhead.

6. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 1, wherein a first end of the sensor body includes a slot adapted to receive a thin portion of the bulkhead where the sensor body is secured to the bulkhead when the slot receives the thin portion of the bulkhead and wherein a second end of the sensor body includes a screw hole adapted to receive a screw for securing the second end to a mounting bracket which extends from the bulkhead.

7. (Currently Amended) The sensor assembly of claim 1, ~~further comprising a perforated air outlet grill secured to the bulkhead,~~ wherein the air outlet grill covers the remaining portion of the air outlet opening.

8. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 7, wherein the air outlet grill includes a plurality of screw holes adapted to receive a plurality of screws such that the plurality of screws secure the air outlet grill to the bulkhead.

9. (Original) The sensor assembly of claim 7, wherein the air outlet grill includes a caved channel formed on a lower circumferential edge of the air outlet grill for receiving the sensor body.

10. (Original) The sensor assembly of claim 9, wherein the sensor body includes a groove formed on an upper edge of the first surface and the air outlet grill includes a ridge that engages with the groove for pressing down the upper edge of the first surface so as to prevent disengagement of the sensor body from the caved channel of the air outlet grill.

11. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 9, wherein the first surface of the sensor body slopes away from a surface of the air outlet grill thereby projecting into the inside of the drum for improved contact with wet clothes.

12. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 1, wherein the first surface of the sensor body slopes away from the bulkhead thereby projecting into the inside of the drum for improved contact with wet clothes.

13. (Currently Amended) An automatic dryer, comprising:
a cabinet;
a drum rotatably provided in the cabinet for containing a load of wet clothes to be dried;
a rear bulkhead comprising an air inlet opening that exhausts dry air into the drum;
a front bulkhead comprising an air outlet opening that exhausts humidified air from the drum;
an electrically non-conductive sensor body secured directly to the front bulkhead, the sensor body being positioned so as to cover a portion of the air outlet opening;
at least one sensing element disposed on a first surface of the sensor body, the at least one sensing element being exposed to the inside of the drum such that wet clothes contact the at least one sensing element during dryer operation; and
a perforated air outlet grill being rigidly secured to the front bulkhead and covering the remaining portion of the air outlet opening, wherein the perforated air outlet grill is configured to receive the sensor body.

14. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13 further comprising:
a first mounting bracket extending from the front bulkhead, where the first mounting bracket includes an aperture disposed therein, wherein the sensor body includes an extension member extending from a second surface of the sensor body and wherein the extension member

inserts into the aperture such that the extension member is in slip fit engagement with the first mounting bracket.

15. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 14 further comprising:
a second mounting bracket extending from the front bulkhead, wherein a first end of the sensor body includes a screw hole adapted to receive a screw for securing the first end to the second mounting bracket.

16. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 14, wherein the extension member of the sensor body includes a detent which engages with the first mounting bracket the extension member from the first mounting bracket.

17. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13, wherein the sensor body further comprises:

a first screw hole disposed in a first end of the sensor body adapted to receive a first screw for securing the first end directly to the front bulkhead; and

a second screw hole disposed in a first end of the sensor body adapted to receive a second screw for securing the second end to a mounting bracket which extends from the front bulkhead.

18. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13, wherein a first end of the sensor body includes a slot adapted to receive a thin portion of the front bulkhead where the sensor body is secured to the front bulkhead when the slot receives the thin portion of the front bulkhead, and wherein a second end of the sensor body includes a screw hole adapted to receive

a screw for securing the second end to a mounting bracket which extends from the front bulkhead.

19. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13, wherein the air outlet grill includes a plurality of screw holes adapted to receive a plurality of screws such that the plurality of screws secure the air outlet grill to the front bulkhead.

20. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13, wherein the air outlet grill includes a caved channel formed on a lower circumferential edge of the air outlet grill for receiving the sensor body.

21. (Original) The automatic dryer of claim 20, wherein the sensor body includes a groove formed on an upper edge of the first surface and the air outlet grill includes a ridge that engages with the groove for pressing down the upper edge of the first surface so as to prevent disengagement of the sensor body from the caved channel of the air outlet grill.

22. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 20, wherein the first surface of the sensor body slopes away from a surface of the air outlet grill thereby projecting into the inside of the drum for improved contact with wet clothes.

23. (Previously Presented) The automatic dryer of claim 13, wherein the first surface of the sensor body slopes away from the front bulkhead thereby projecting into the inside of the drum for improved contact with wet clothes.